

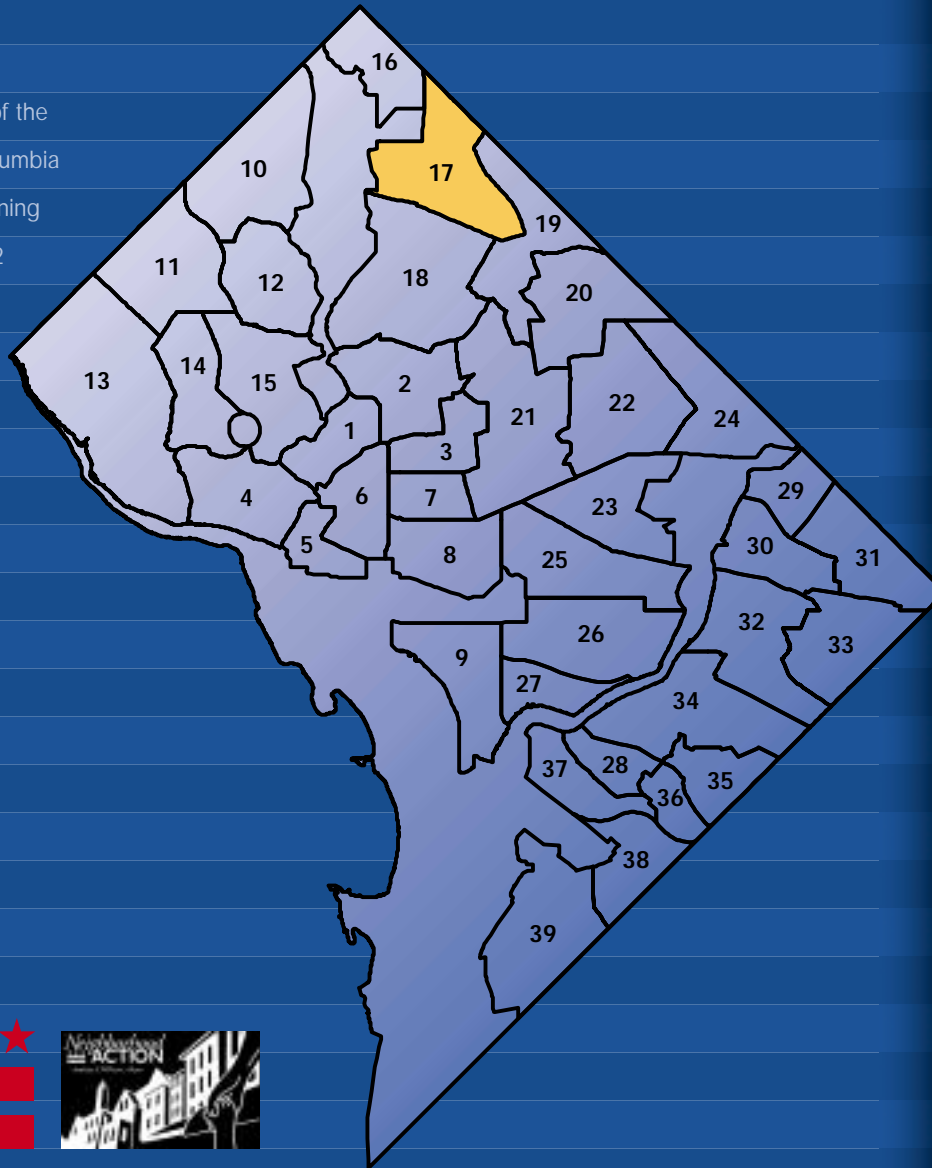
# Neighborhood Cluster

# 17

## District of Columbia Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan

### Prepared by

Government of the  
District of Columbia  
Office of Planning  
Summer 2002



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ANTHONY A. WILLIAMS, MAYOR



Brightwood  
Manor Park  
Takoma

## Acknowledgments

*The following people and groups  
deserve special recognition for the  
time they dedicated to developing  
this plan for Cluster 17:*

Advisory Neighborhood Commissions(ANCs)  
4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D

Brightwood Civic Association

Cluster 17 Neighborhood Steering Committee

Concerned Neighbors

Gateway Georgia Avenue Revitalization  
Corporation

Historic Takoma

Neighbors, Inc.

Plan Takoma

Residents of Brightwood, Manor Park, and  
Takoma

South Manor Civic Association

Takoma United

Ward 4 Economic Development Task Force

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## Letter From the Mayor



Dear Resident,

I am very proud to present the Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP) for your Neighborhood Cluster. I personally want to congratulate all the citizens, the citizen and civic associations, the faith community, the Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, the businesses, and others that helped shape this plan.

I have personally reviewed these plans and am struck by the tremendous amount of work, thought, and commitment that went into their preparation. I value these SNAPs as a way to communicate directly with you, the residents and stakeholders of this marvelous city.

What began at the city-wide level with the first and second Citizen Summits in 1999 and 2001 has been expanded at the neighborhood level through the Neighborhood Planning, Neighborhood Service, and Neighborhood Outreach efforts—all part of the overall Neighborhood *Action* program. Through this triad, I have heard your concerns and priorities directly and have taken measures to respond.

This Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan is not just words on paper. Every agency in my administration has reviewed these plans to see how they might contribute to advancing the priorities and objectives you outlined here. As you know, this was a tough budget year. I instructed agencies to preserve their commitments to addressing your priorities, as they assessed how and where to trim their budgets. What's more, additional funding was provided to specifically accomplish a number of important neighborhood priorities articulated through the SNAPs across the city. This approach includes funding to install an additional 600 litter cans across the city; hire an additional Fire Inspector for every Ward; add another staff person under the Clean City Administrator, who will further the goal of neighborhood cleanliness; hire additional Historic Preservation staff to review projects in historic areas; and more. While not every priority was met, such changes signal tangible evidence of my belief that the business of government starts with the business of the people.

This SNAP document is a first of its kind. It is the first time a major city has coordinated a plan with every neighborhood in the city in a single year. It is the first product of many that will provide citizens with a record of how this government will directly respond to your priorities.

I am excited about this SNAP document and about what it signals for the future of our neighborhoods and our city. I look forward to working with you, my agencies, and other stakeholders to implement the many significant priorities you have identified here. Congratulations, and now the work begins.

Sincerely,

Anthony A. Williams  
Mayor

Dear Resident,

Enclosed is your Neighborhood Cluster's Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP). I want to personally thank all who contributed to developing this plan and congratulate them for their hard work. Many in your neighborhood devoted considerable time identifying strategies to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood. This effort has helped us—the District government—better partner with you to make concrete improvements in our communities.

Your SNAP is a new kind of "plan for action" because it will not simply sit on a shelf. It is a document that lists key commitments by agencies and includes a timeline for implementation. It is a document whereby the commitments will be tracked by the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood *Action* to ensure that they are followed through to completion. It is an action plan and a foundation of our city's budget.

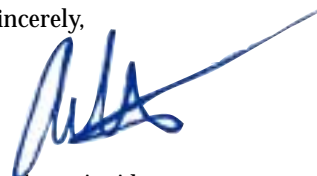
With the same level of deep commitment in developing this plan, I urge you—neighborhood groups, the faith community, businesses, nonprofits, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, and others—to help implement the remaining actions. While I know many of you have been active in your neighborhoods for years, implementing specific actions in this plan will help unite government and citizen efforts through its goal of addressing specific priorities identified by your neighbors.

Our work with you in your neighborhoods has just begun! Your Neighborhood Planner, Rosalynn Frazier, who helped develop this SNAP, will continue to work with you to help implement and coordinate the recently completed Takoma Central District Plan; to contribute to analyzing and selecting an alignment for the Metropolitan Branch Trail, working with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and Department of Public Works (DPW); to

assist businesses in developing a revitalization strategy for 3rd Street in Cluster 17; and to explore neighborhood-scale development for the Georgia Avenue–Petworth Metro station area. She will continue to provide technical support to the Ward 4 Economic Development Task Force, among other work.

I look forward to our continued work with you in your Neighborhood Cluster. Thank you and congratulations once again for all your hard work and dedication in developing this SNAP.

Sincerely,



Andrew A. Altman  
Director, Office of Planning

## Letter From the Director





## Neighborhood Action

Three years ago, Mayor Williams's administration developed a new framework for how the District government would work together with citizens and other partners to make good decisions and to improve our city. This framework was the start of *Neighborhood Action*. The mission of *Neighborhood Action* is to empower citizens to improve their communities by mobilizing and coordinating the resources of government, businesses, nonprofits, the faith community, neighborhood leaders, and the citizens themselves. *Neighborhood Action* has held four Citizen Summits: one in November 1999, a follow-up in January 2000, one in October 2001, and another in December 2001. There were also two Youth Summits to hear from our younger residents. At those public forums, citizens shared their priorities for the city, which helped redefine our District government's priorities at the city-wide level.

It was also realized, however, that there was much work to be done at the neighborhood level. As part of

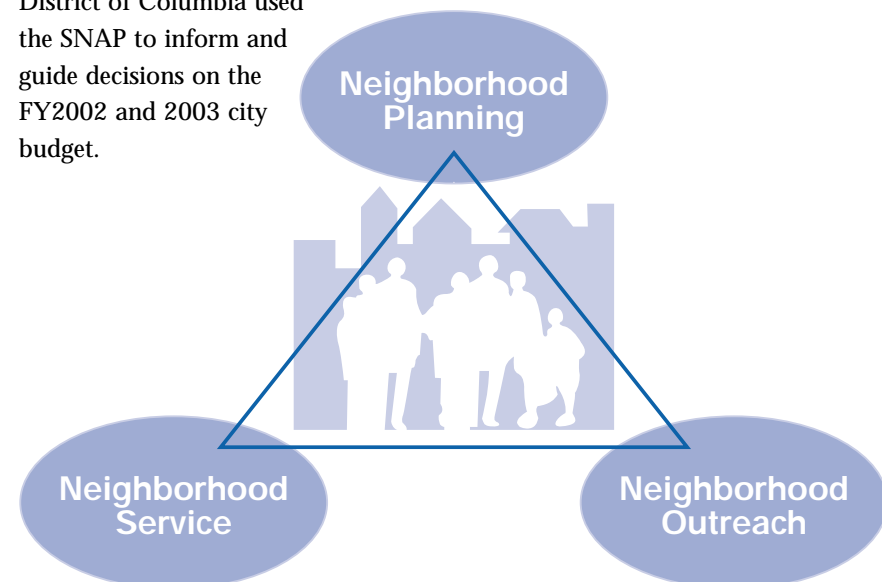
*Neighborhood Action*, the *Neighborhood Action Triangle* was created—three neighborhood initiatives aimed to identify and then solve neighborhood-specific issues. They are the Neighborhood Service Initiative, the Neighborhood Outreach Program, and the Neighborhood Planning Initiative. **Neighborhood Service** addresses recurring service delivery problems that require the coordinated involvement of more than one agency. **Neighborhood Outreach** holds public meetings, town halls, “coffee with the Mayor,” and other meetings to ensure that this administration stays connected to neighborhood issues. **Neighborhood Planning** has been working with citizens to identify top priority issues and to develop Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans (SNAPs) for each of the 39 Neighborhood Clusters in the city.

## Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan

This document is the SNAP for your Neighborhood Cluster. Citizens, citizen groups, businesses, the faith community, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, and others helped

develop this plan with the Neighborhood Planning Initiative located in the DC Office of Planning (OP).

The SNAP is part of *Neighborhood Action*, which is Mayor Williams's initiative to reengage citizens in the governance of their city and to establish a vision, priorities, and action for your Neighborhood Cluster. For the first time in the District, the SNAP provides residents a process to articulate and begin addressing many of the neighborhoods' most pressing challenges. The government of the District of Columbia used the SNAP to inform and guide decisions on the FY2002 and 2003 city budget.



# Introduction

# 1



Unlike the long-range goals of the Comprehensive Plan, the SNAP identifies near-term goals (i.e., goals for a 2-year period). Through a series of community workshops and meetings, community stakeholders identified the following priority areas of the Cluster 17 SNAP: Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces; Public Safety; and Quality Public Education. These three priorities and the actions recommended to address them reinforce several community concerns identified in the Ward 4 plan. Progress on each action committed to by a District agency will be tracked through annual status reports by the Office of Neighborhood Action.

Although the SNAP is an independent planning document not tied to the Comprehensive Plan, it could inform residents about how the Comprehensive Plan is updated in the future. Currently, the Mayor and Council are appointing a Comprehensive Planning Task Force representing a broad cross-section of stakeholders to work

with the Office of Planning as it undertakes a review of the current plan and planning process.

### The Comprehensive Plan

Throughout the SNAP process, residents asked, “How do Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans relate to the Comprehensive Plan?” While both documents outline a vision for neighborhoods and include concrete and identifiable goals for your community, there are differences in how they are used by District agencies and what the immediacy is of their effect on your neighborhood.

The *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital* is a long-range (20 years) general policy document that provides overall guidance for the future planning and development of Washington, DC. District agencies use this document as a guide to ensure that their actions reinforce the long-term goals of the city. The Comprehensive Plan was first proposed by the Mayor and adopted by the Council in 1984 and 1985, respectively. Amendments to the plan are proposed by the Mayor and approved

by the Council every 4 years. The plan has been amended in 1989, 1994, and 1998. The plan includes both local and Federal elements and is the only planning document mandated by the Home Rule Act. There are 10 local elements, which together are usually referred to as the “District of Columbia Comprehensive Plan”: General Provisions, Economic Development, Housing, Environmental Protection, Transportation, Public Facilities, Urban Design, Downtown Plan, Human Services, and Land Use.

The Ward 4 plan—one part of the goals for the Comprehensive Plan—establishes a vision for Ward 4 over 5 years (1999–2004) that underscores ensuring that the Ward’s many existing qualities and resources are protected and enhanced. For Brightwood, Manor Park, and Takoma Heights, the plan identifies the following as specific community concerns: economic development, transportation and traffic effects, and land use/zoning measures to ensure that they are compatible with existing residential areas.



## A Message From Your Neighborhood Planner

As your Neighborhood Planner, my job has been to guide residents and stakeholders of Cluster 17 through the neighborhood planning process. The goal of this process was to facilitate a citizen-driven effort to identify neighborhood priorities to help guide District agencies, nonprofits, and others to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood. Together, we have produced your first Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP). This effort has truly been a monumental achievement!

At times, the task has not been easy. I know that historically, areas in this Cluster have not received the level of attention residents felt it deserved. There were those of you who did not want to attend another meeting—but came anyway. There were those of you who did not believe that this process would bring about real

change—but came anyway. There were those of you who worked to create a better neighborhood without government assistance and did not believe that the time had come when your government would assist you as a willing partner. Although we have a long way to go—we have heard you. This document is proof that your government is changing to better serve you and to provide a tool for you to hold us accountable.

I would like to recognize the tremendous commitment and dedication of all who participated in this planning process. They were active throughout the effort—reviewing and fine-tuning many elements of the draft SNAP plan. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your community to implement the actions outlined in this plan and to achieve the vision for livable, equitable, and vibrant neighborhoods throughout the District of Columbia.

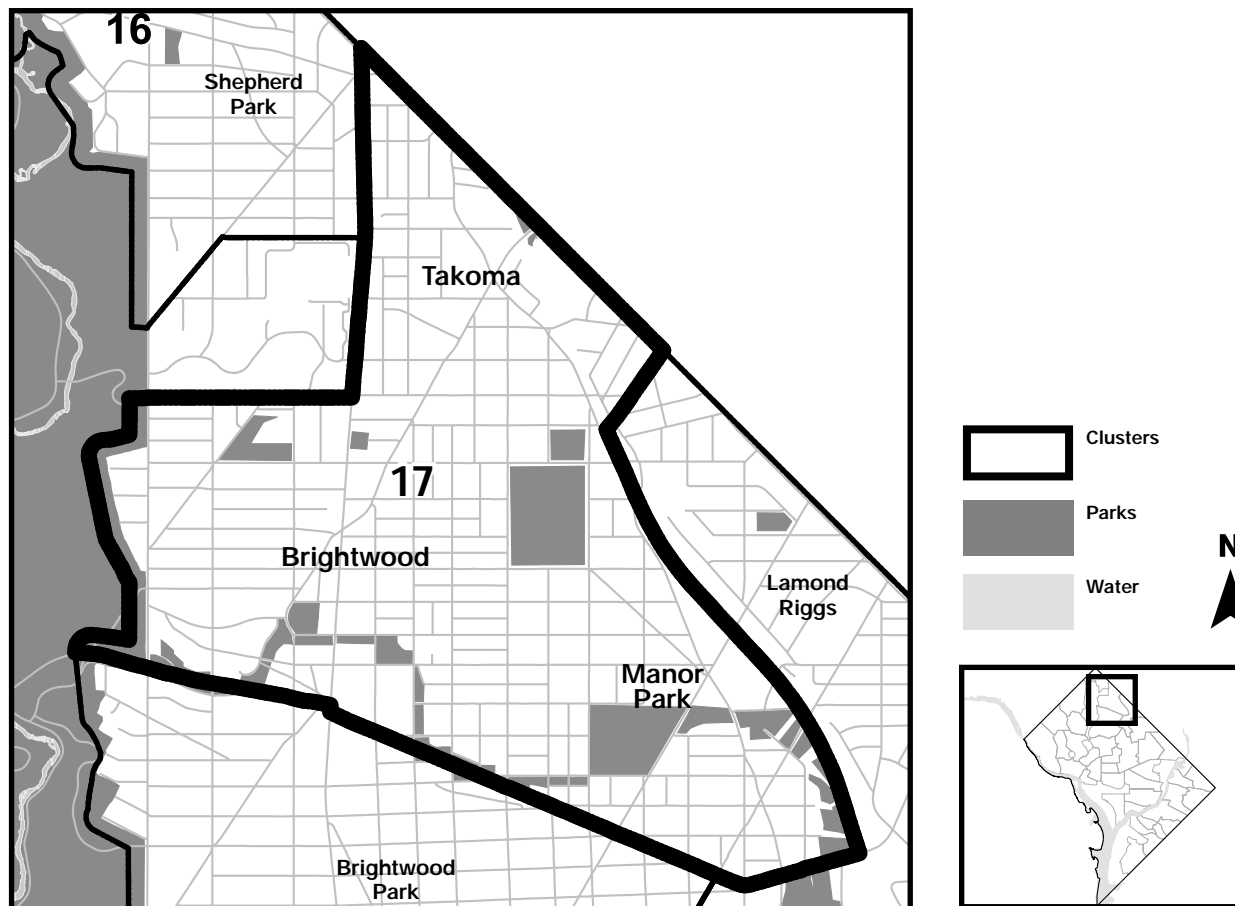
To better understand what makes your Neighborhood Cluster special, please read the following sections, which describe both the positive and negative conditions found in your communities, including physical characteristics, demographics, and recent activity in your neighborhood.

**Rosalynn Frazier**  
*Neighborhood Planner, Cluster 17*

## State of the Cluster

# 2

Cluster 17: Brightwood, Manor Park, Takoma



### Cluster 17 Neighborhoods

This document is the first SNAP developed for Neighborhood Cluster 17. Your Neighborhood Cluster is shown on the map and includes the following neighborhoods:

- Brightwood
- Manor Park
- Takoma

These three neighborhoods developed this SNAP with the help of your Neighborhood Planner, Rosalynn Frazier.

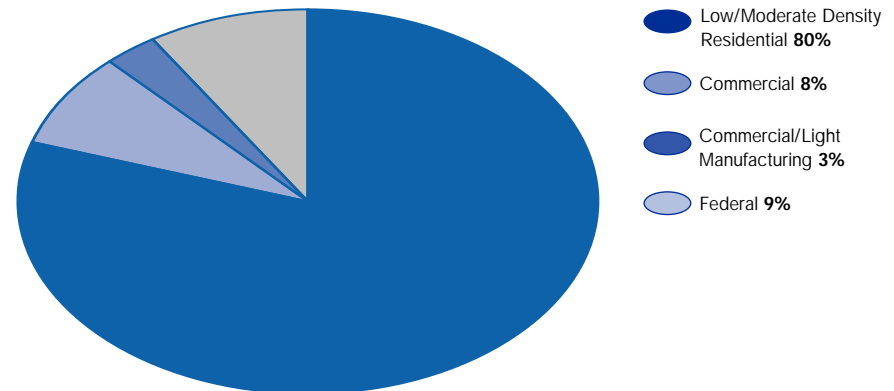
### Physical Characteristics and Assets

Cluster 17 neighborhoods are defined by a range of housing choices, including single family detached houses, semidetached houses, row houses, and apartment buildings. Georgia, New Hampshire, and Kansas Avenues are major thoroughfares. Those corridors also serve as commercial districts. The southern boundary, Missouri Avenue and Military Road is the major east-west thoroughfare throughout Ward 4. A breakout of the types and corresponding percentages of land uses for this Cluster is shown on the pie chart to the right.

The neighborhoods of Cluster 17 are also rich in history and culture. The Brightwood area was established in the 1730s as Crystal Spring Farm. In the 1820s, the development of Vinegar Hill began, and it continued to

develop into the 20th century, later known as Brightwood. Throughout this time the Brightwood Turnpike (now Georgia Avenue) was completed, the Battle of Fort Stevens took place, Nativity Church was built, Emory United Methodist Church was organized, and the Military Road School was constructed. Takoma—founded in 1883 as an inter-jurisdictional commuter suburb and resort community centered on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad station—is one of the oldest neighborhoods in the Ward. It is the Ward's only neighborhood that has an historic district.

Land Uses in Cluster 17



Source: Zoning Data contained in the Central DC GIS Database maintained by DC Office of the Chief Technology Officer, as of April 2002

Fort Stevens Recreation Center, 13th & Van Buren Streets, N.W.



Fort Stevens, 13th Street NW



Some highlights of Cluster 17's assets and features include the following:

- *Neighborhoods offer sound housing stock and a good real estate market.*
- *Immediate access to Rock Creek Park provides a massive buffer of green space and opportunities for both passive and active recreation.*
- *The western portion of the Cluster borders Walter Reed Army Medical Center, the Army's largest health-care delivery system. The medical center provides comprehensive medical care to military families throughout the region and around the world. The Museum of Health and Medicine (which is an element of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology), Army Physical Disability Agency, and several smaller units are located on the campus.*
- *The Gateway Georgia Avenue area is currently experiencing new investment and physical transformation, and it offers significant revitalization and economic development opportunities.*
- *Downtown Silver Spring and other parts of Montgomery County and the region are within close proximity.*
- *The Cluster includes the Takoma Park Historic District.*
- *The Takoma Together Community Day and Yard Sale occurs annually.*
- *The Cluster has historic and cultural attractions, including Fort Stevens, National Battleground Cemetery, Nativity Church, Emory Methodist Church, Military Road School, and the Takoma Theatre.*
- *Every year, Georgia Avenue Day is a celebration of history, community, and commerce.*
- *Georgia Avenue is the site of the annual Washington Caribbean Carnival Parade. The Caribbean Carnival, one of the largest cultural festivals in the Washington metropolitan area, is a feast of culture with Caribbean music, dance, arts and crafts, fashion, and food.*

The Silk Road Boutique, Gift Shop &amp; Café, 3rd Street NW



## Demographics

Cluster 17 has approximately 18,441 residents, representing about 3% of the District's population. African Americans make up the majority of residents in this Cluster, constituting 79% of its population. Approximately 13% of residents are of Hispanic origin; this percentage is higher than the city-wide average of 8%. The Cluster's median household income (\$45,848) is also higher than the city-wide median household income (\$43,001). Likewise, the percentage of owner-occupied housing is higher than the city's percentage, 52% and 41% respectively. The adjacent chart provides some basic information about your neighborhood such as age, race and ethnicity, and family income of residents for 2000. It also shows data for 1990, which allows you to see how your Cluster has changed. To learn more about other demographics, you may obtain a copy of your Cluster 17 Databook by contacting the Office of Planning (OP) at 202-442-7600.

	Cluster 17: 1990	Cluster 17: 2000	City-wide: 2000
<b>Population</b>	19,464	18,441	572,059
<b>Age</b>			
Under 18 years	19%	20%	20%
Between 18 and 65 years	65%	64%	68%
Over 65 years	16%	17%	12%
<b>Race / Ethnicity</b>			
African American	88%	79%	60%
White	8%	9%	31%
Hispanic <sup>1</sup>	5%	13%	8%
<b>Income</b>			
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	\$35,272	\$45,848 <sup>3</sup>	\$43,001 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Education</b>			
High School Graduates	79%	Data not yet available	78%
College Graduates	29%	Data not yet available	39%
<b>Housing</b>			
Occupied Housing Units	8,108 units	7,820 units	248,338 units
Percentage of Housing Units Owner-Occupied	51%	52%	41%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and 2000 data.

1. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

2. Median income is the income level at which half of the households earn more and half earn less. It is literally the income that is in the middle.

3. Claritas, Inc., 1998 data.

### Recent Neighborhood Activity

In recent years, Cluster 17 has experienced a resurgent housing market, significant public infrastructure improvements, and some new small-scale retail development. While much activity has been focused on the Georgia Avenue corridor, other investment is occurring in neighborhoods throughout the Cluster.

The following is a list of key activities:

- *\$624,000 was used for streetscape improvements along Georgia Avenue, from Fern Street to Eastern Avenue.*
- *In April 2001 the Kamit Institute for Magnificent Achievers Public Charter School opened and is located at 7301 Georgia Avenue NW.*
- *The Silk Road Boutique, Gift Shop, and Café opened and is located at 6224 3rd Street NW.*
- *Haydee's restaurant opened and is located at 6303 Georgia Avenue NW.*
- *The Nile Market and Kitchen opened and is located at 7816 Georgia Avenue NW.*
- *The El Tamarindo restaurant expanded. It is located at 7331 Georgia Avenue NW.*
- *Coconuts restaurant opened and is located at 6912 4th Street NW.*
- *Curtis Chevrolet expanded to include a Kia dealership. It is located at 5959 Georgia Avenue NW.*
- *A \$534,000 grant went to the Georgia Avenue Gateway Revitalization Corporation for the Georgia Avenue Storefront Improvement Program. Since August 2001, 41 property owners have signed up to participate. Fourteen storefronts in the 7300 block have been completed. An additional 17 storefronts are scheduled to be completed by September 2002.*

- *Georgia Avenue Beautification efforts were led by the Georgia Avenue Gateway Revitalization Corporation and ANC 4A. Efforts included landscaping 38 curbside tree boxes, 27 sidewalk planters, 5 tree box guards, and 2 hanging planters.*
- *The Takoma Central District Plan was completed in January 2002 and adopted by the Council of the District of Columbia in June 2002.*
- *\$14.6 million was allocated for the new Takoma Recreation and Aquatic Center.*
- *\$5.7 million was used for the renovation of the Aspen Court Apartments, which has 105 units and is located at 6650–6676 Georgia Avenue NW.*

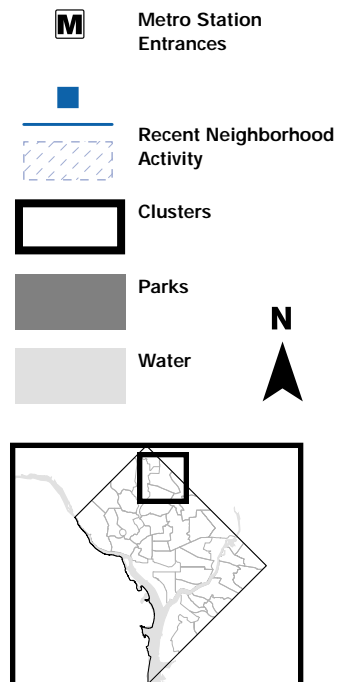
The Recent Neighborhood Activity Map on the following page depicts the key activities in your Cluster.

D'Carlo Upholstery, Georgia Avenue Storefront Improvement Program—7300 block of Georgia Avenue NW

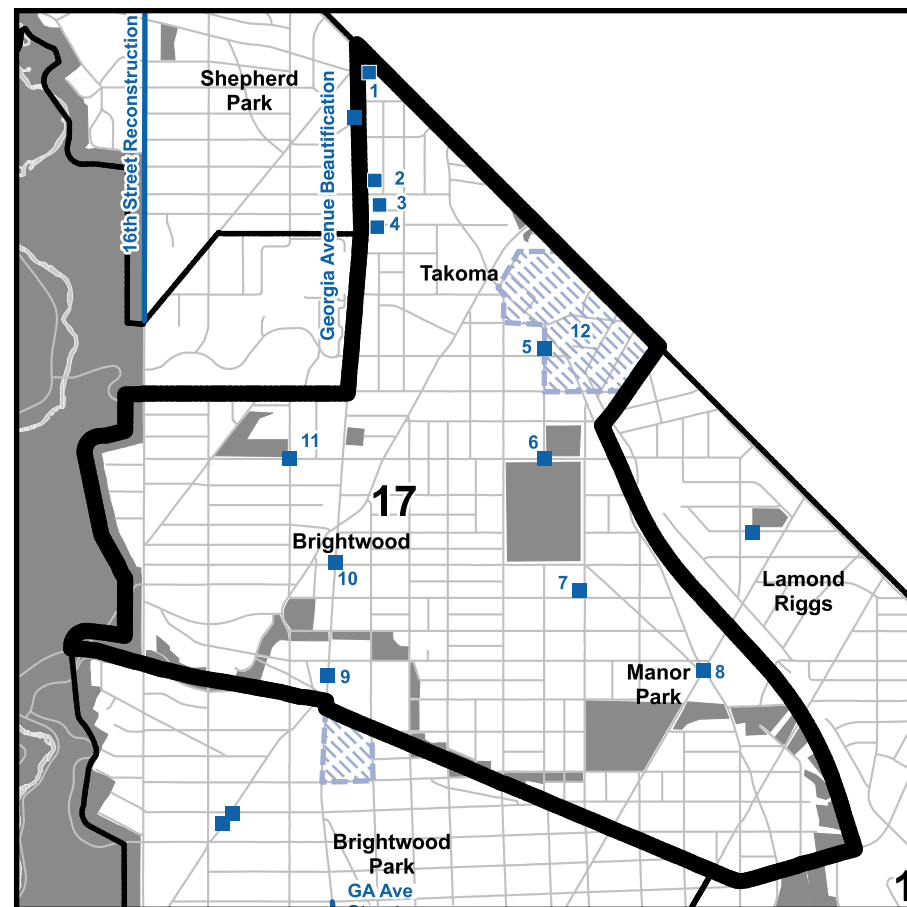




1. The Nile Market & Kitchen
2. El Tamarindo expansion
3. KIMA
4. Georgia Avenue Storefront Improvements
5. Coconut's
6. Takoma Recreation Center and Poolhouse
7. The Silk Road Boutique, Gift Shop & Cafe
8. Washington Archives
9. KIA Dealership
10. Haydee's
11. Fort Stevens Recreation Center
12. Takoma Central District Plan



Recent Neighborhood Activity in Cluster 17







### Citizen-Driven Process

The commitment of Neighborhood *Action* is to engage citizens in the governance of their city and to align government priorities with citizens' priorities. Following the tradition of the Citizen Summit, the Neighborhood Planning Initiative has citizen engagement at the core of its mission. As such, the process for developing your SNAP was built around a four-phase, citizen-driven process: (1) Start Up, (2) Visioning and Identifying Essential Ingredients, (3) Action Planning, and (4) Validation.

The hard work began in phase two, when a Visioning and Identifying Essential Ingredients Workshop was held in each Neighborhood Cluster between January and June 2001. At this workshop, citizens were asked to create a list of essential ingredients for their Cluster. Essential ingredients are characteristics vital to making a neighborhood a place where people and families can live and thrive.

Your Cluster identified and ranked seven essential ingredients as vital for a livable community:

1. Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces.
2. Quality Public Education.
3. Stable Residential Community With No Displacement.
4. Public Safety.
5. Well-Resourced Recreational Facilities.
6. Enhanced Economic Development.
7. Government Accountability.

### Cluster Priorities

Participants were then asked to identify three to four priority essential ingredients that would be the focus of additional action planning. For FY2002 and FY2003, they agreed on the following priority ingredients:

- Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces.
- Public Safety.
- Quality Public Education.

Next, residents were invited to participate in a series of Action Planning meetings to identify specific actions for addressing their priorities. During this extensive exercise, participants were challenged to think strategically about the necessary steps and the specific locations to begin addressing the priorities. With the detailed priorities, objectives, actions, and locations, the SNAP served as a tool for District agencies in preparing their FY2003 budgets.

## Developing Your SNAP

# 3

### How We Involved You

#### Phase I: Start Up

- Conducted informal consultations with neighborhood leaders to discuss the concept of the SNAP and to develop key contacts. These consultations were held from January to March 2001.
- Recruited and formed a Neighborhood Action Steering Committee to plan and promote the Neighborhood Cluster Workshop. A Neighborhood Action Steering Committee meeting was held on April 23, 2001, followed by ongoing consultation in preparation for the workshop.

#### Phase II: Visioning and Identifying Essential Ingredients

- Convened a Neighborhood Cluster Workshop on May 19, 2001, at the former Richard Milburn and New Vistas Preparatory Public Charter Schools to identify the essential ingredients for a healthy neighborhood and to establish priorities.

#### Phase III: Action Planning

- Organized an Action Planning Work Session to develop preliminary action plans in August 2001.

#### Phase IV: Validation

- Convened a Neighborhood Cluster meeting on October 15, 2001, to review and validate the draft plan.

#### Community Outreach

- Announced the Steering Committee Meetings, the Neighborhood Cluster Workshop, the Action Planning Work Sessions, and other meetings specific to the SNAP using a variety of outreach methods. Specifically, notices were distributed door-to-door through direct mailings and were sent to area ANCs and to Council Member Fenty's office. Meetings were also announced at ANC, citizen and civic association meetings, and through e-mail.
- More than 50 citizens participated in the planning process.

District agencies then reviewed the neighborhood priorities as they reviewed their FY2002 budget and developed their proposed FY2003 budget. Beginning in October 2001, more than 40 agencies reviewed recommended actions and developed responses to address neighborhood priorities. Although resources are limited, agencies used neighborhood priorities as one of the inputs to help define what they should do next year, how they should be doing it, and where they should begin.

Further, when District agencies were asked to reduce their FY2003 budgets because of funding shortfalls, the Mayor and his administration emphasized that existing commitments to SNAP priorities remain untouched. Last, in a review of your SNAP and others across the city, additional funding was provided to certain agencies that needed more assistance to address neighborhood

priorities. For example, more funding was dedicated to city-wide issues such as the following:

- *Install an additional 600 litter cans across the city.*
- *Hire an additional Fire Inspector for every Ward.*
- *Hire an additional staff person who will be under the Clean City Administrator and who will further the goal of neighborhood cleanliness.*
- *Hire additional Historic Preservation staff members to review projects in historic areas.*

These and other items were included in Mayor Williams' draft FY2003 budget that was submitted to the Council of the District of Columbia to consider as it reviewed and revised the budget. Now that the Council has approved the final FY2003 budget, the commitments to your neighborhoods are firm.

### Agency Commitment Highlights

In Cluster 17, some of the key actions that concerned citizens most received the following agency commitments:

Improve the Safety, Appearance and Maintenance of Parks and Facilities

- *The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has recently hired its first landscape architect to contribute to the maintenance and beautification of parks.*
- *DPR will replace or repair lighting, benches, trash receptacles, and other amenities at park locations.*
- *DPR's Urban Park Rangers and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) will coordinate to ensure security in parks.*
- *DPR will undertake a \$14 million construction project to renovate the Takoma Recreation Center and Pool. The renovation will include an enclosed Olympic-size pool, new recreation center, lighting, ball fields, and parking.*

Conduct Traffic Assessments and Studies

- *The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will conduct a city-wide truck traffic assessment and, where needed, will impose sign restrictions.*
- *DDOT will conduct a transportation study of the Takoma neighborhood.*

Improve Infrastructure, Including Streets, Sidewalks, Crosswalks, Alleys, Trash Receptacles, and Landscaping Along Neighborhood Streets

- *DDOT will determine the condition of infrastructure and, where necessary, will resurface or design and implement improvements along Rock Creek Ford Road, Spring Place, Longfellow and 2nd Streets, Riggs Road, and Kansas and Eastern Avenues.*
- *The Department of Public Works (DPW) will place 180 litter cans in selected areas across the city in areas that meet certain criteria. Given the high demand for litter cans, additional funds have been allocated in FY2003 to install more than 600 litter cans. DPW will give*

*strong consideration to locations identified through the Neighborhood Planning process.*

Public Safety: Expand Existing and Develop New Orange Hat Patrols in Targeted Locations. Reinforce Communication Skills in Police Training

- *The Policing for Prevention Group of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) will provide technical assistance to residents and police officers to expand and start citizen patrols.*
- *MPD will improve community policing and crime-prevention skills of officers by incorporating Policing for Prevention principles and practices throughout MPD's recruit training.*

Chapter 4, the Action Plan, describes in detail how District and non-District agencies are responding to the citizen priorities in FY2002, FY2003, and beyond.



## Understanding the Plan

The Cluster 17 Action Plan is where citizen-driven priorities are described in detail. The priorities specific to Cluster 17 include the following:

- Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces
- Public Safety
- Quality Public Education

This section describes both District commitments and key community-led actions. The data are organized by the priorities described above. Each priority is further described by objectives, which articulate specific problems or needs that must be addressed in order to accomplish the priority. For example, if a Cluster's priority is Public Safety, objectives may be to “develop strategies to reduce drug activity” and to “improve relations between police and area residents.” Each objective then has a specific Action Plan that includes Proposed

Action, Responsible Agencies, Budget Commitment, and Time Frame for Implementation.

As you read through the Action Plan, you will notice that many of the recommended actions list commitments from multiple agencies. It is often the case in government that several agencies with specific expertise are required to work together to fully address any one issue. In those cases, the first agency listed is the lead agency, or agency that has primary responsibility for implementing or coordinating implementation. The additional agencies listed will play a supporting role to the lead agency. An agency commitment may range from providing background information or performing technical analysis on a specific project, to funding and managing a series of activities on a city-wide initiative.

The Action Plan also acknowledges the fact that government cannot address those priority issues alone. In many instances, the agencies will

need the help of the business and institutional community, nonprofits, civic and citizen organizations, and individual citizens to create sustainable community improvement. During the SNAP process, many of the priorities identified by your neighborhood included actions that require community or private-sector leadership and participation or both. The following Action Plan includes those community-led actions, and it begins the process of engaging residents and other organized groups to work together with government to address local issues.

The following pages provide the detailed District Agency commitments and timelines to begin addressing some of your top Cluster priorities.

*Because partner names are abbreviated in this Action Plan, please refer to Appendix B for a list with the complete name of each partner.*

## The Action Plan

# 4

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

## PRIORITY 1:

**Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces**

Residents are concerned about keeping all public spaces clean and well maintained and about repairing infrastructure, such as streets, sidewalks, and storm drains. Code enforcement should also be increased to improve the appearance of private residential and commercial properties. Additionally, residents are concerned that District agencies do not provide adequate information to citizens regarding their routine schedules of services and that agencies should better coordinate their service delivery to maximize results.

## OBJECTIVE 1:

Keep public spaces clean and well maintained.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2033	Install and maintain trash receptacles.	Key locations: unit to 100 blocks of Kennedy Street NW and 400-500 blocks of Kennedy Street NW	DPW	4279	The Department of Public Works (DPW) has 500 new and replacement litter cans on order. The first 320 will be used to replace obsolete blue litter cans. The remaining 180 will be available for installation at new locations. The city will be surveyed for need, which will be prioritized, including this location. Installations will be made during Q3 of FY2002. Additional cans will be purchased over the next 3 years as funding becomes available.	FY2002
2034	Keep alleys clean.	Key locations : 8th and 9th Streets between Aspen and Butternut Streets	DPW	4280	DPW will continue to deliver its core business services that include alley sweeping.	Ongoing
			OCCC	7618	The Office of the Clean City Coordinator (OCCC) will continue to provide cleanliness ratings for use in the deployment of resources.	FY2002
2035	Keep streets well maintained, and conduct regular street sweeping as scheduled.	Key locations: Blair Road between Aspen and Whittier Streets	DPW	4281	DPW will continue to deliver its core business services that include alley sweeping.	Ongoing
			OCCC	7619	OCCC will continue to provide cleanliness ratings for use in the deployment of resources.	FY2002



## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1: **Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces**OBJECTIVE 1: **Keep public spaces clean and well maintained.**

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2036	Conduct an assessment of sidewalks; repair and install new sidewalks as necessary.	Key locations: Blair Road between Aspen and Butternut Streets, 6722 3rd Street, and 8th and Butternut Streets	DDOT	7293	For sidewalk repair, DDOT will inspect locations and perform design work in the fourth quarter of FY2002. Construction will be completed in FY2003. For new sidewalks, existing DDOT policy requires a petition, a hearing, and an assessment. Legislation is pending to waive this process.	FY2003
2037	Repair potholes.	Key locations: Georgia Avenue and Dahlia Street, and Blair Road between Aspen and Whittier Streets	DDOT	6048	Citizens or the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) can report potholes to 202-727-1000, and the agency will respond within 72 hours.	Ongoing
2038	Increase enforcement of abandoned vehicles in public and private spaces.	Problem areas: Georgia Avenue and Aspen Street, and 6900 to 7200 blocks of Piney Branch Road	MPD	4285	Police Service Area (PSA) 401 officers will complete Form PD904, as well as call 202-727-1000. They also will notify the Neighborhood Service Coordinator (NSC) when requesting removal.	FY2002
2039	Provide better vector control on residential properties.	Key location: 6700 block of 3rd Street	DOH	4286	The Department of Health (DOH) will continue to abate properties in adherence with schedule and complaints received.	Ongoing
2041	Enforce litter laws.	Key locations: 1st and Kennedy Streets, 5th and Kennedy Streets, and all streets surrounding Coolidge High School	MPD	4288	PSA officers in 403 and 404 are educating citizens at PSA meetings. They are also enforcing the litter laws.	FY2002

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1: **Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces**

OBJECTIVE 1: **Keep public spaces clean and well maintained.**

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2042	Reduce illegal parking.	Key locations: Georgia Avenue from Eastern Avenue to Piney Branch Road; 3rd Street between Whittier and Aspen Streets, 3rd and Sheridan Streets, and 6800 to 7100 blocks of Eastern Avenue	DPW	4289	DPW will hire 138 parking officers in FY2002, which will result in increased enforcement in locations, including residential, and enforcement of out-of-state vehicles.	FY2002
			MPD	4290	4th District police officers and DPW ticket writers are responsible for handling illegal parking.	Ongoing
2043	Provide upgrades to major transportation corridors throughout the Cluster, including Riggs Road, Kansas Avenue, and Eastern Avenue (repair or replace sidewalks, resurface streets, delineate crosswalks, replace or upgrade lighting, install trash receptacles, and install landscaping and street furniture).		DDOT	6049	DDOT will determine pavement condition of these locations. Where necessary, design will be completed in Q4 of 2003, and construction will be completed in "out years."	FY2003
			DPW	4291	DPW will place 180 litter cans in selected areas across the city in areas that meet certain criteria. Given the high demand for litter cans, additional funds have been allocated in FY2003 to install more than 600 litter cans. DPW will give strong consideration to locations identified through the Neighborhood Planning process.	FY2002

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1: **Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces**

OBJECTIVE 2: Improve communication and accountability from DC agencies to residents and businesses.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2044	DC agencies should develop and adhere to the maintenance and service schedules of all public spaces.		DMPED	4293	The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) has created a new program called "DC Business Connections" to help District-based businesses interface with District Agencies, particularly regarding service delivery.	FY2002
			DMCYF	4292	For Cluster 17, this action really applies only to the DPR, which regularly publishes its maintenance schedule on its website.	FY2002
			DMPSJ	7130	Public safety agencies such as MPD, Fire and Emergency Medical Services (FEMS), Department of Corrections (DOC), Emergency Management Agency (EMA), and Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) are unlike other service agencies in that they do not have scheduled services (they generally respond to emergent situations). MPD, however, does have patrols in neighborhoods. Each PSA has a lieutenant in charge. Citizens should get to know their respective PSA lieutenant and patrol staff and may attend monthly PSA meetings. To find out more, citizens can visit MPD's website at <www.mpd.dc.gov>.	Ongoing
			OCA	9720	Already Ongoing: Information on a wide range of scheduled services can be found on the District website at <dc.gov/mayor/customer_service/core_services.shtm>. Relevant agencies are required to set performance targets for percentages of services completed within timetables in FY2002 performance contracts with the Mayor. Contact Doug Smith, Office of the City Administrator (OCA), at 202-727-6053 or <doug.smith@dc.gov>.	Ongoing
2045	Have DC agencies widely distribute maintenance and service schedules, and post schedules on the Internet.		DMPSJ	7131	Public safety agencies do not have regular service schedules like many of the city service agencies. The police, however, do have the city divided into PSAs. Citizens can access MPD's website online at <mpdc.dc.gov/info/districts/districts.shtm> to learn more about their individual PSA and the services offered in it.	Ongoing

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1:

**Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces**

OBJECTIVE 2:

Improve communication and accountability from DC agencies to residents and businesses.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2045	Have DC agencies widely distribute maintenance and service schedules, and post schedules on the Internet.		DMCYF	4294	DPR is the only agency this action applies to in the Health and Human Services Cluster. Agency websites are accessible through the main DC Government website, <www.washingtondc.gov>.	FY2002
			OCA	9963	Already Ongoing: Information on a wide range of scheduled services can be found on the District website at <dc.gov/mayor/customer_service/core_services.shtm>. Relevant agencies are required to set performance targets for percentages of services completed within timetables in FY2002 performance contracts with the Mayor. Contact Doug Smith, OCA, at 202-727-6053 or <doug.smith@dc.gov>.	Ongoing
2046	Have the government better coordinate service delivery among various agencies.		DMPSJ	7132	The Neighborhood Service Initiative (NSI) that is run out of the OCA serves this function. The MPD works with the NSI in each of the city's eight Wards. In an effort to build even greater coordination, this database was developed by many agencies. The plans that are developed using these data will be used to coordinate services better.	Ongoing
			DMCYF	4296	The city has established the Children and Youth Investment Collaborative. Currently, the Mayor's order is being revised and legislation will be sent to Council in February 2002. This entity will be responsible for coordinating service delivery across all child- and family-serving agencies, including key private and nonprofit partners.	FY2002
2047	Have DC agencies better inform residents and business owners of their own responsibilities.		DMCYF	4298	The Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth, Families, and Elders (DMCYF) will work through the boards and committees that report to the DMCYF. The DMCYF is developing a master calendar of the meeting dates for those groups and will develop strategies to make this recommendation more concrete.	FY2002

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1: **Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces**

OBJECTIVE 2: Improve communication and accountability from DC agencies to residents and businesses.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2047	Have DC agencies better inform residents and business owners of their own responsibilities.		DMPSJ	7133	Public safety agencies such as the police department are working more with communities to identify specific, local problems to solve. Often the solution to those problems is public education. The first step in that process is working with city agencies such as the police through its Partnership for Problem Solving program <mpdc.dc.gov/serv/programs/volunteer.shtm> or NSI (202-727-1000) to identify the problem and target solutions. Agencies will continue to work with residents and business owners. If you have a specific question about an agency's responsibility, please contact the city using the City-wide Call Center at 202-727-1000. A representative will direct you to the appropriate agency.	Ongoing
2048	Have DC agencies improve the quality of services rendered, including effective monitoring of contractual work.		DMPSJ	7134	The Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice (DMPSJ) works with each agency head to develop and monitor a performance contract with each public safety agency head. DMPSJ monitors performance on a monthly basis. Public safety agencies are generally not able to contract out the agency operations.	Ongoing
			DMCYF	4300	The current Performance Management System will be applied to contractors. The Children and Youth Investment Collaborative, once convened, will undertake a provider review that is across all service sectors and is aimed at improving the quality and expanding the capacity of the District's provider network.	Ongoing
			DMPED	4301	DMPED will continue to work with each agency head to develop and monitor agency goals, performance contracts, and contracted services.	Ongoing

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1:

**Enhanced, Attractive, Well-Maintained Public Infrastructure and Public and Private Spaces**

OBJECTIVE 3:

Improve appearance of residential and commercial properties.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2049	Prioritize key areas where code enforcement should be increased with Ward 4 Neighborhood Services Core Team.	Key area: PPA #14.	NSI	4302	Persistent Problem Area (PPA) #14 (located in the Takoma neighborhood) is actively being addressed by the Ward 4 Core Team. NSI will expand to residential property in Q4 of FY2002.	FY2002
2050	Conduct walk-throughs of prioritized areas with Ward 4 Neighborhood Services Core Team.		NSI	4303	The Ward 4 Core Team will identify additional PPAs and will work on specific problems as they arise.	FY2002
2051	Develop action plan for each prioritized area with Ward 4 Neighborhood Services Core Team.		NSI	4304	Thus far, 7 of 15 plans for PPAs have been developed. The 8 remaining plans will be completed by Q4 of FY2002.	FY2002

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 2:

**Public Safety**

Residents are concerned about not only reducing criminal activity, but also providing pedestrian safety. Most residents expressed that more consistent police patrols are needed and that residents should become more involved in participating in neighborhood watches and reporting criminal activity. High-speed traffic on neighborhood streets is hazardous for pedestrians, particularly the elderly and children. The high level of traffic congestion also contributes to the lack of safety for pedestrians.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Reduce criminal activity throughout neighborhoods.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2052	Expand existing Orange Hat Patrols and start new ones.	Key locations: Takoma Metro station area-Cedar Street, Carroll Street, and 4th Street.	MPD	4305	The Policing for Prevention group will provide technical assistance to working groups of residents and police officers in the PSAs where residents are interested in setting up a citizen patrol. Development of training and outreach will begin in Q3 of FY2002, and actual training of groups will begin in Q4 of FY2002.	FY2002
2053	Develop a crime awareness and prevention campaign with MPD and residents in conjunction with PSAs 401, 402, and 404. Encourage residents to be the “eyes and ears” of the community.		MPD	4306	The Policing for Prevention group will provide technical assistance to working groups of residents and police officers in the PSAs where residents are interested in setting up a citizen patrol. Development of training and outreach will begin in Q3 of FY2002, and actual training of groups will begin in Q4 of FY2002.	FY2002
2054	To encourage more reporting of criminal activity, educate residents on how police dispatchers handle anonymous calls for service.		MPD	4307	All PSA officers throughout the 4th Police District educate citizens at monthly PSA meetings.	FY2002
2056	Provide consistent and balanced police presence throughout neighborhoods.	Key locations: 1st Place between Kennedy Street and New Hampshire Avenue	MPD	4309	All PSAs in District 4 have officers assigned to bike patrol and foot patrol, including in the specified key location. Additionally, redeployed officers are assigned to foot patrol in those areas.	Ongoing
2058	Reinforce communication skills in police training.		MPD	4311	MPD will seek to improve community policing and crime-prevention skills of officers by incorporating Policing for Prevention principles and practices throughout MPD's recruit training, beginning in FY2003.	FY2003



## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 2: **Public Safety**OBJECTIVE 2: **Reduce high-speed traffic and traffic congestion.**

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
249	Conduct a traffic-calming study and install traffic-calming measures.	Key locations: Georgia Avenue and Hemlock Street, 1st and Kennedy Streets NE, and Blair Road, and Aspen Street between Piney Branch Road and Georgia Avenue.	DDOT	838	DDOT, in partnership with Howard University, is developing criteria for traffic-calming measures (Q3 of 2002). Installation would occur after development of criteria (Q2 of 2003).	FY2003
250	Conduct a transportation study to address impacts of commuter traffic.	Key corridors: New Hampshire Avenue, Georgia Avenue, Blair Road, Piney Branch Road, and Kansas Avenue	DDOT	839	DDOT is planning a transportation study of the New Hampshire Gateway and Petworth areas.	FY2003
2059	Conduct assessment of residential parking and parking to serve commercial retail businesses. Impose new parking restrictions as needed.	Key location: Takoma Metro station area	DDOT	4312	DDOT is planning a transportation study for the Takoma area.	FY2003
251	Conduct assessment and enforcement of truck traffic and impose restrictions where needed.	Key locations: Kansas Avenue and Van Buren Street	DDOT	840	DDOT will conduct assessment and, where needed, impose sign restrictions.	FY2002

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 2: **Public Safety**

OBJECTIVE 3: Provide pedestrian safety.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2060	Revise signal timings to allow for safe pedestrian crossings.	Key intersections: Blair Road, 4th Street, Cedar Street, and Carroll Street; Georgia Avenue, Eastern Avenue, Kalmia Road, and Alaska Avenue	DDOT	4313	DDOT is planning a transportation study for the Takoma area.	FY2003
2061	Conduct assessment of bus stops to enhance pedestrian safety.	Key locations: New Hampshire and Eastern Avenues	WMATA	4314	The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Regional Bus Study will recommend new standards and new bus facilities, and a series of safety enhancements for bus stops in the District and around the region. WMATA will assess safety issues for bus patrons at New Hampshire and Eastern Avenue in Q3 of FY2002.	FY2002

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 3:

**Quality Public Education**

Residents shared that there is a clear link between the quality and commitment to public education and the socio-economic vitality of the neighborhoods. Specific recommendations that residents identified include the following: provide diverse educational, social, and recreational opportunities for children and youth; increase parental involvement and their commitment to children; and improve and maintain educational facilities. Additionally, residents believe that maintaining high standards for principals and staff performance is paramount to creating a thriving learning environment.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Develop and maintain high standards for principals and staff performance.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2064	Form a network of residents and business people to volunteer training opportunities for teachers.		Community	4317	Success of this action will depend on community leadership and individual action. ANCs, citizens, community organizations, nonprofits, and others are encouraged to help implement this action.	Ongoing

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 3: **Quality Public Education**OBJECTIVE 2: **Improve and maintain educational facilities.**

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2066	Have DC Public Schools (DCPS) provide adequate funding for school maintenance; the priority school is Coolidge High School.		DCPS	4319	DCPS will continue to improve the overall maintenance at Coolidge High School.	Ongoing
2068	Develop a “building improvement action plan” for each neighborhood school.		DCPS	4321	DCPS’s Office of Facilities Management is addressing the building improvement of its facilities according to the following strategies: modernizations, component replacements, small capital projects, deferred maintenance improvements, and a sustained maintenance program.	Ongoing

OBJECTIVE 3: **Increase parental involvement.**

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2072	Seek assistance from neighborhood school principals and teachers in developing a neighborhood academy for parents.		DCPS	4325	While parent involvement is an important part of DCPS’s business plan, this activity is not one that DCPS would do on its own. This activity would be best conducted by the Department of Human Services (DHS) or CFSA or might be planned by the CYIP. This outreach would need to be conducted at the local level by an entity providing the training. DCPS can encourage it but not mandate it. The request will be provided to planners of parent involvement strategies currently under development.	Ongoing

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 3:

**Quality Public Education**

OBJECTIVE 4:

Provide children and youth with more/better educational and recreational opportunities outside of school.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
252	Explore the development of “community learning centers” that operate 6days a week during after-school hours. Work with DCPS and chartered schools to use existing school space.		DCPS	841	Out-of-school time programs operate in all Ward 4 schools that elected to participate. If a local school does not choose to participate, parents should work with the principal and LSRT to advocate for placement of such programs at the school. This is a local decision. (Contact After School for All at 202-442-5580)	FY2002
2075	Develop after-school programs to target young teens, ages 11-13.		DCPS	1682	DCPS provides out-of-school time programs in all Ward 4 elementary and middle/junior high schools that have elected to participate.	FY2002
			DPR	9721	DPR has very recently hired a new Associate Director for Programs. She is in the process of assessing the current situation (by reading those plans and visiting sites) and is excited to work with the community to develop future programs. She will take your comments very seriously. She can be reached through the main number at 202-673-7665.	FY2002
2076	Work with DCPS and charter schools to enhance before-care and after-care programs in neighborhood elementary schools.		DCPS	1683	DCPS provides out-of-school time programs in all Ward 4 elementary and middle/junior high schools that have elected to participate.	Ongoing
2077	Encourage residents to volunteer in before-care and after-care programs in neighborhood elementary schools.		DCPS	1684	Residents are encouraged by local out-of-school programs to volunteer to participate in such programs.	Ongoing

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 3: **Quality Public Education**

OBJECTIVE 4: Provide children and youth with more/better educational and recreational opportunities outside of school.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2080	Establish "neighborhood teen nights" on Friday nights. Coordinate with neighborhood churches, recreation centers, and other community-based organizations.		DPR	1687	DPR has recently hired a new Associate Director for Programs. She is in the process of assessing the current situation (by reading those plans and visiting sites) and is excited to work with the community to develop future programs. She can be reached at 202-673-7665.	FY2002
253	Provide funding to existing youth-serving organizations to increase resources to children and youth.		DMCYF	842	The Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation is the mechanism by which the District supports expansion of out-of-school time funding for children and youth. Currently, 49 organizations receive multiyear funding to provide out-of-school time, youth entrepreneurship, and early childhood development programs that are available free to District residents.	Ongoing
2081	Publicize and promote free educational opportunities for children and youth.		DCPS	1688	A public awareness campaign regarding delivery of services during out-of-school time will begin in Q3 of FY2002.	FY2002
254	Restructure and expand existing programs at Takoma Recreation Center in coordination with other youth programs provided by DCPS and community-based groups.		DPR	843	The Takoma Recreation Center will be replaced by a new facility scheduled for construction in FY2002. The new facility will provide, among other things, an aquatics center that will be accessible to nonprofits and DCPS.	FY2002
			DCPS	7518	Takoma is not scheduled for school modernization at this time. DCPS will collaborate with DPR in the redesign of the Takoma Center; program operations during out-of-school time will be coordinated to ensure a smooth reopening.	FY2002

### Actions With No Commitments

Even though District agencies considered all actions that this Cluster identified, a number of actions were suggested by citizens through the SNAP process that did not receive a commitment. Reasons for a lack of commitment ranged from the fiscal limitations (not enough money is currently available in the agency's budget), the particular agency with the authority to implement an action disagreed with the strategy, or the action needed more internal analysis before a commitment was made. These actions included the following:

PRIORITY 3:

### Quality Public Education

Action	Location	Agency	Agency Response
Develop a neighborhood academy to teach parents/guardians parental skills, social skills, civic responsibility, value of raising responsible children, and different learning methods for children.		DCPS	While parent involvement is an important part of DCPS's business plan, this activity is not one that DCPS would do on its own. This is an activity that would be best conducted by DHS or CYFSA or might be planned by the CYIP. DCPS cannot commit to the action at this time.



## Overview

While this Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan outlines and begins to address the key priorities identified by the neighborhoods in your Neighborhood Cluster, several other neighborhood initiatives are playing a major role in improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Those initiatives include the following:

### Neighborhood Service Initiative (NSI)

Neighborhood Service strives to find permanent solutions—not just quick fixes—for persistent problems in every Ward. To this end, the NSI, in partnership with residents and 13 District agencies, has identified Persistent Problem Areas (PPAs) in the community. In most cases, when the Metropolitan Police Department has an active Police Service Area Plan (PSA Plan) or a Capital Community Plan, a PPA work plan was developed. Those areas have recurring

problems that need the cooperation and coordination of many government agencies to ensure that they become clean, safe, and healthy neighborhoods. Through a Core Team approach, 13 government agency representatives come together weekly in each Ward to develop and implement work plans in an effort to mobilize, reclaim, revitalize, and sustain abatement of the problems in PPAs. *Because this initiative has been very active in your Neighborhood Cluster, the following few pages provide more detailed information.*

### Transforming Schools Initiative (T-9)

In FY2001, DCPS selected nine schools to reconstitute and transform including facilities, curriculum, and staffing. In FY2002, another set will be selected, as well as in FY2003. Several existing schools will serve as a pilot for the new “neighborhood places” model of coordinated, neighborhood-based social services being

implemented by the District agencies. The T-9 school in your Ward is LaSalle Elementary School, which is located at 501 Riggs Road NE. *Please contact Helen Flag at 202-442-5023 to learn more about this initiative.*

### Home Again: Renovating Our City's Abandoned Properties

This initiative will promote the development of the District's vacant and abandoned properties by gaining site control of the properties and by selling them to developers, who will renovate them into new homes. The initiative will begin by gaining site control in five neighborhoods: Columbia Heights, Ivy City/Trinidad, Near Northeast, Rosedale, and Shaw. Then it will expand throughout the city. The initiative's goal is to provide at least 30% of the homes to low-income families. *Please contact Neal Drobenare at 202-727-3899 to learn more about this initiative.*

## Other Neighborhood Initiatives

# 5

### Partnership for Problem Solving

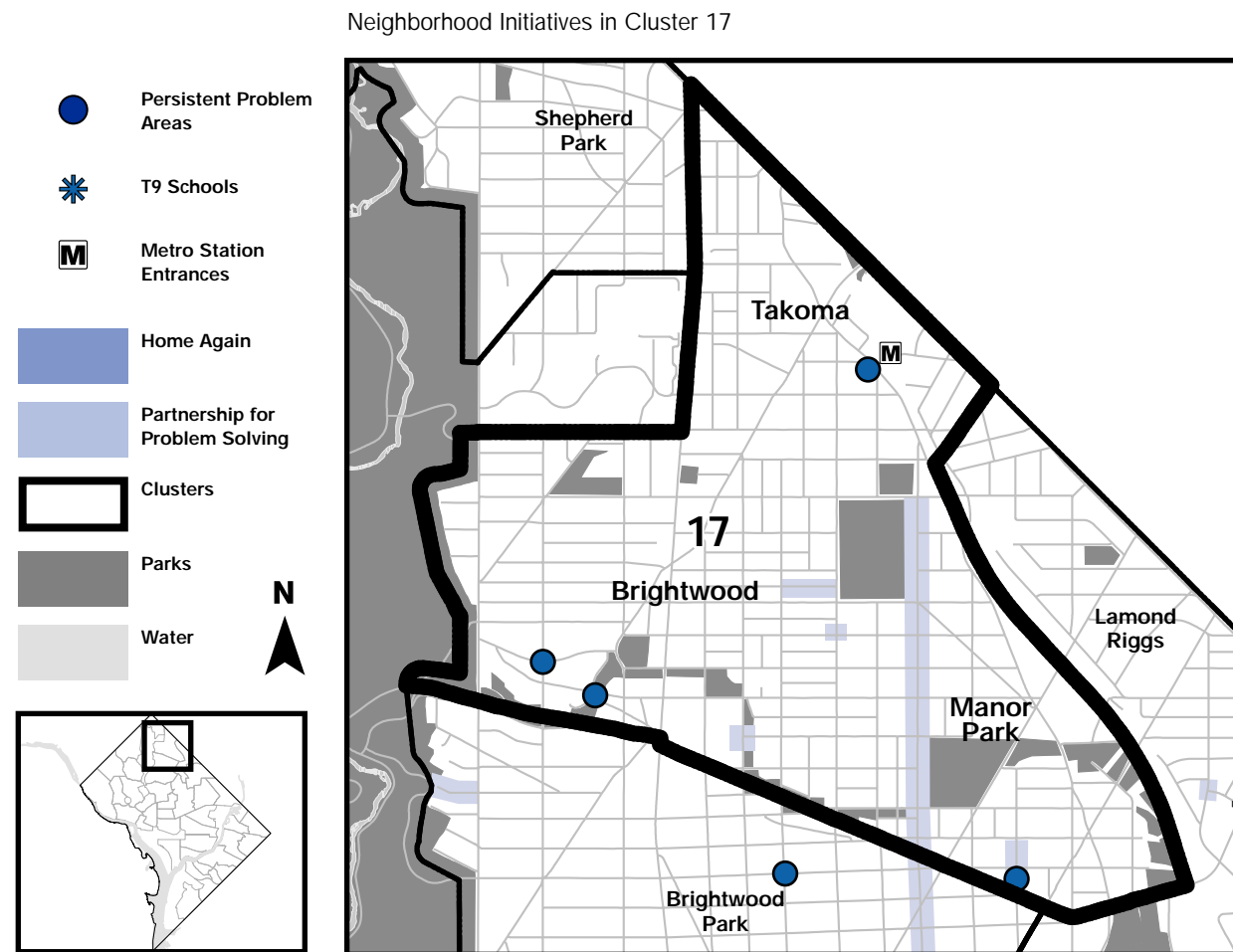
Police Lieutenants are working in partnership with the community and other stakeholders to address local public safety problems. They are developing plans specific to Police Service Areas (the geographic units that the police have implemented in the city) to facilitate the collaborative problem-solving process and to address public-safety issues. Strategies that have been developed focus on addressing offenders, victims, and locations and consist of three types of approaches: focused law enforcement, neighborhood partnership, and systemic prevention. *Please contact Ann Russell at 202-727-1585 to learn more about this initiative.*

### Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)

TOD is a land use strategy to accommodate new growth, strengthen neighborhoods, and expand choices and opportunities. TOD capitalizes on bus and rail assets to stimulate and support vibrant, compact, diverse, and accessible neighborhood centers within walking distance of transit. TOD is a strategy that allows for a rich mix of uses—residential, retail, and work places—at densities that are appropriate for the neighborhood. *Please contact Karina Ricks at 202-442-7607 to learn more about this initiative.*

In many instances, the issues addressed in the SNAPs directly link with other neighborhood initiatives, thus creating synergy in areas that will receive substantial public and private resources.

The Neighborhood Initiatives map on the next page depicts the above-mentioned initiatives that are located in your Cluster.



### Neighborhood Service Initiative

The NSI is a partnership between 13 District agencies to identify, prioritize, and solve recurring service delivery problems called Persistent Problem Areas (PPAs). PPAs are special because there are multiple problems in a specific area and, therefore, require multiagency strategies to solve. There is one Neighborhood Service Coordinator (NSC) for each Ward who coordinates the work of District agencies to solve the neighborhood problems. The NSC for Ward 4 is Merritt Drucker.

To identify the PPAs for this Neighborhood Cluster, the NSC worked with Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, community organizations, business owners, individual residents, and District agencies. Specifically, areas were identified and prioritized, and then specific work plans were developed for each PPA. Listed below is a more detailed description of each PPA.

Four PPAs are in Cluster 17:

6800–7000 blocks of Blair Road NW

Key problems in this area include lack of enforcement of DC codes plus infrastructure neglect. Accomplishments include closure of an illegal business, major infrastructure repair, and improved conditions of the triangle park. Future goals include abating noncompliance to DC codes by businesses, infrastructure improvement, and monitoring of services.

5400–5500 blocks of 1st Street NW

Key problems in this area include illegal activity, infrastructure neglect, and code compliance. Accomplishments have included cleaning and regularly monitoring the area and multiagency code compliance inspections. Future work in this area will include further infrastructure improvements, increased police presence, and monitoring of business and residential units for code compliance.

1300–1400 blocks of Peabody Street NW

Key problems in this area include nuisance properties and lack of services. Accomplishments include several

multiagency inspections, infrastructure repairs, and monitoring service provision.

1300–1500 blocks of Fort Stevens Drive NW

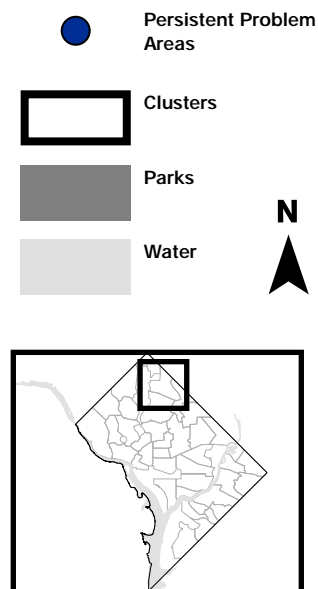
Key problems in this area include infrastructure neglect and lack of streetscaping. Accomplishments include streetscape improvements by planting trees and by infrastructure repairs, including sidewalks and curbs. Future work in this area involves focusing on further infrastructure repair and outreach to the community to assist in sustaining efforts made by government agencies.

The PPAs map on the next page shows the locations of the PPAs in your cluster.

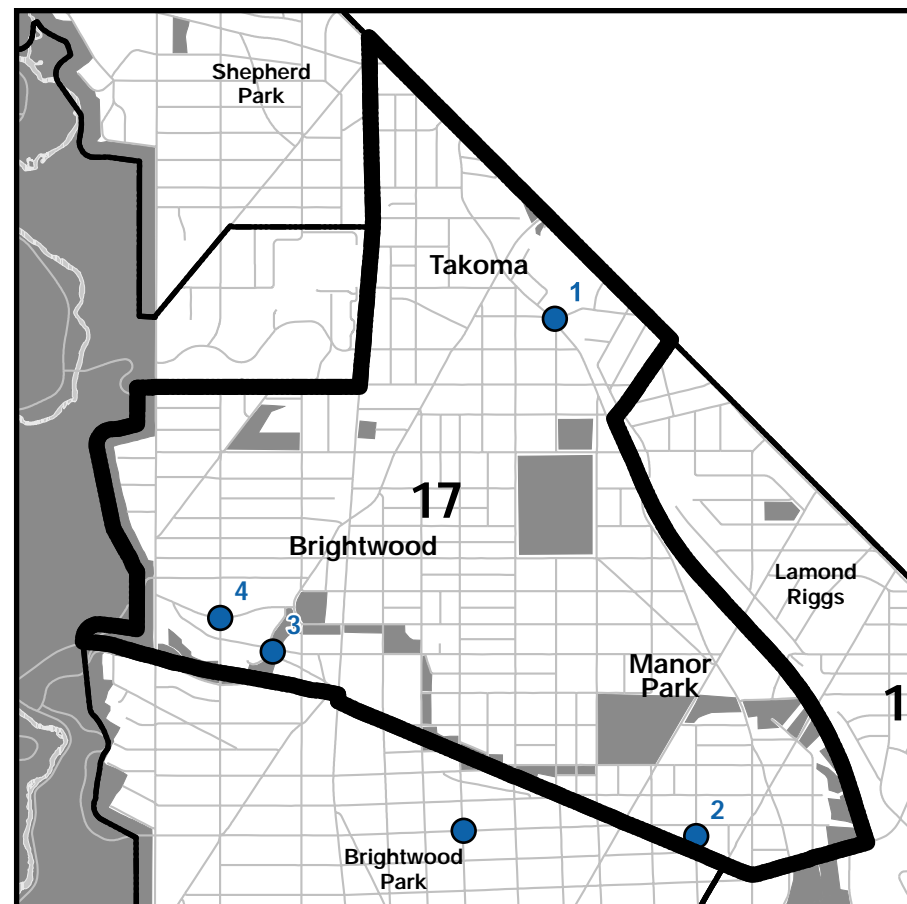
The NSC, in partnership with District agencies and the community, will continue to work on solving these existing PPAs. Each quarter, NSI will be considering work on additional PPAs in the Cluster. One of the key factors in this decision is determining whether improvements made to the PPAs are being sustained.

One of the variables for sustaining these areas is active community involvement—such as providing regular cleanups, learning about city codes and regulations, and keeping an eye on properties and reporting any illegal activity. If you have questions, or are interested in partnering with your NSC on addressing these problems, please call Merrit Drucker at 202-576-8103.

1. 6800–7000 blocks of Blair Road NW
2. 5400–5500 blocks of 1st Street NW
3. 1300–1400 blocks of Peabody Street NW
4. 1300–1500 blocks of Fort Stevens Drive NW



Persistent Problem Areas in Cluster 17





Your SNAP is a living document, not just a plan collecting dust on a shelf. In fact, a number of activities are currently under way to ensure that the priorities highlighted in this document are addressed. The following are examples:

#### Progress Updates to Your SNAP

The Office of Neighborhood *Action* is monitoring the status of projects with District agencies. A status update meeting will be held in each Ward twice a year to share with residents the progress of the commitments.

#### Implementation of Citizen-Driven Actions

The success of this plan depends on a strong partnership among District agencies, other agencies, businesses, community development corporations, the faith community, and you. To find community partners to help implement citizen actions, the Office of Neighborhood *Action* will be making contacts in your Cluster. You are strongly encouraged to take the initiative, to pull people or groups together, and to champion one of these actions. Please contact the Office of Neighborhood *Action* (at 202-727-2822) to learn where you might be able to help.

#### Role of Your Neighborhood Planner

Your Neighborhood Planner will be responsible for implementing several actions in this Ward. During this coming year, Rosalynn Frazier will help implement and coordinate the recently completed Takoma Central District Plan. Several other activities she will conduct over the next year include providing planning and outreach support for the following: (1) the analysis and selection of an alignment for the Metropolitan Branch Trail administered by DDOT and DPW; (2) a commercial revitalization strategy for 3rd Street NW in Cluster 17; and (3) exploring neighborhood-scale development for the Georgia Avenue–Petworth Metro station area. She will continue to provide technical support to the Ward 4 Economic Development Task Force, among other work.

# What Happens Now

# 6





The Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans were built heavily on past and present plans and documents that have been developed by your neighborhood and the city. For your reference, we have listed a number of relevant plans and documents for your area. Many of these plans are accessible on the Neighborhood Action website at <[www.neighborhoodaction.dc.gov](http://www.neighborhoodaction.dc.gov)> or at your local library.

## Reference Materials

Plan:	Date Completed:	Plan Development Led by:
Cluster 17 FY2003 Citizen Budget Guide and Worksheet	March 18, 2002	DC Government
Takoma Central District Plan	January 2002	DC Government, Office of Planning
Cluster 17 Visioning Workshop Summary Report	Summer 2001	DC Government, Office of Planning
Cluster 17 Databook	Winter 2001	DC Government, Office of Planning
Revitalization Through Inter-jurisdictional Partnerships: Lessons for Georgia Avenue	July 2000	DC Agenda, by The Council for Urban Economic Development
Upper Georgia Avenue Commercial Corridor Plan	May 2000	DC Agenda Support Corporation and The Ward 4 Task Force Gateway Committee, by AG Dobbins and Associates
City-wide Comprehensive Plan	1998	DC Government, Office of Planning
Ward 4 Plan	1998	DC Government, Office of Planning
7thStreet/Georgia Avenue Market Study and Implementation Plan	December 1998	Peoples Involvement Corporation, by RER Economic Consultants, Inc.
Report and Recommendations of the Old Town Development Advisory Committee, Takoma Park, Maryland, and Takoma, DC	October 1991	Old Town Development Advisory Committee
Development Impact Study: A Look at the Two Takomas	May 1987	George Washington University, in cooperation with the Takoma Park Division of Economic and Community Development
Neighborhood Commercial Corridors: Takoma Park NW	October 1986	Kresscox/Sulton Campbell Joint Venture
Upper Georgia Avenue Commercial Revitalization Potentials	December 1982	DC Government, Department of Housing and Community Development
Metro Places	September 1975	DC Government, Municipal Planning Office and the DC Bicentennial Commission and Assembly
A Plan for Takoma, DC	March 1975	DC Government, Municipal Planning Office

## Action Plan Partner Abbreviations

ABRA	Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration	DMCYF	Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth, Families, and Elders	NSO	Neighborhood Stabilization Officer
CAH	Commission on Arts and Humanities	DMH	Department of Mental Health	NTHP	National Trust for Historic Preservation
CBO	Community-Based Organization	DMPED	Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development	OCA	Office of the City Administrator
CDC	Community Development Corporation	DMPSJ	Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice	OCC	Office of Corporation Counsel
CFSA	Child and Family Services Administration	DMV	Department of Motor Vehicles	OSCC	Office of the Clean City Coordinator
DBFI	Department of Banking and Financial Institutions	DMO	Deputy Mayor of Operations	OCFO	Office of the Chief Financial Officer
DCFD	DC Fire Department	DOC	Department of Corrections	OCP	Office of Contracting and Procurement
DCHA	DC Housing Administration	DOES	Department of Employment Services	OCTO	Office of the Chief Technology Officer
DCHFA	DC Housing Finance Authority	DOH	Department of Health	OLBD	Office of Local Business Development
DCMC	DC Marketing Center	DPR	Department of Parks and Recreation	OP	Office of Planning
DCOA	DC Office of Aging	DPW	Department of Public Works	OPM	Office of Property Management
DCOP	DC Office of Personnel	EMA	Emergency Management Agency	OTR	Office of Tax and Revenue
DCPL	DC Public Libraries	EOM	Executive Office of the Mayor	OZ	Office of Zoning
DCPS	DC Public Schools	FEMS	Fire and Emergency Medical Services	PSA	Police Service Area
DCRA	Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs	FHA	Federal Housing Administration	TCC	Taxi Cab Commission
DDOT	District Department of Transportation	IGO	Inspector General's Office	UDC	University of the District of Columbia
DHCD	Department of Housing and Community Development	MPD	Metropolitan Police Department	WASA	DC Water and Sewer Authority
DHS	Department of Human Services	NCRC	National Capital Revitalization Corporation	WCCA	Washington Convention Center Authority
DISR	Department of Insurance and Securities Regulation	NPS	National Park Service	WMATA	Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
		NSC	Neighborhood Service Coordinator	ZAC	Zoning Advisory Committee
		NSI	Neighborhood Service Initiative	ZC	Zoning Commission

# Your District Representatives

**Anthony A. Williams**  
Mayor

**Kelvin Robinson**  
Chief of Staff

**John Koskinen**  
City Administrator

## Council of the District of Columbia

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Council Chair

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**David Catania**, At-Large

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